

BILL NUMBER: SCR 62 INTRODUCED
BILL TEXT

INTRODUCED BY Senator Torlakson
 (Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Wolk)
 (Coauthors: Senators Chesbro, Machado, and Ortiz)
 (Coauthor: Assembly Member Jones)

SEPTEMBER 1, 2005

Relative to the California Delta Trail.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 62, as introduced, Torlakson California Delta Trail.
This measure would express the Legislature's support for the creation of a California Delta Trail which would link the San Francisco Bay Trail system to present and future trailways in the Counties of Contra Costa, San Joaquin, Solano, Sacramento, and Yolo.

Fiscal committee: no.

WHEREAS, The great California Delta region is a wondrous state and national treasure, with its natural resources and fertile soils for agriculture, its access to recreation and science research, and its rich history and beauty; and

WHEREAS, The California Delta provides two-thirds of the state's drinking and irrigation water, which flows through the delta's over 1,000 miles of waterways, levees, and shoreline; and

WHEREAS, The California Delta is of great ecological significance, with its two most prominent waterways; the Sacramento and the San Joaquin Rivers, which carry fresh water from the Sierra Nevada Range and the Central Valley to the San Francisco Bay; and

WHEREAS, The California Delta is a key part of the Pacific Flyway, and its rich ecosystem serves as home to thousands of unique birds, fish, animals, and plants, and is enjoyed by outdoor enthusiasts, water-sport fans, hunters, fishermen and naturalists; and

WHEREAS, The California Delta is a complicated and fragile system that needs the appreciation and protection of future generations of Californians; and

WHEREAS, The California Delta is characterized by its numerous scenic waterways, levee-top roadways, historic towns, idyllic marinas, and eucalyptus tree windrows; and

WHEREAS, There are 22 public recreation areas in the delta region, with fishing, park day-use facilities, campgrounds, trails and boating access, which support numerous recreational activities including boating, water skiing, jet skiing, windsurfing, sailing, fishing, relaxing, hiking and jogging, swimming, picnicking, and cycling; and

WHEREAS, California is challenged by a growing obesity crisis and state and local leaders must address the need for more opportunities for exercise, movement, and recreation in public settings; and

WHEREAS, Delta Protection Commission surveys have found that there are unmet recreational needs in the delta region, including the need for more hiking and bicycling trails, facilities for wildlife observation and education, water sports access areas, bank fishing areas, parking facilities and trash pick-up receptacles, and improved historic and cultural sites providing interpretive information; and

WHEREAS, Bicycle and pedestrian trails along the delta would provide an important link between the people of California and one of our most precious natural resources; and

WHEREAS, A bicycle and pedestrian trail connecting the delta region with adjacent areas would provide a great link between our fascinating delta communities and foster a connection between our rich histories and our present challenges; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly thereof concurring, That the Legislature supports the creation of the California Delta Trail, that would link the San Francisco Bay Trail system to present and future trailways in the Counties of Contra Costa, San Joaquin, Solano, Sacramento, and Yolo; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature encourages the Delta Protection Commission and each of the delta's bordering counties, cities, and special districts, in coordination with state and federal agencies, to collaborate in a strategic plan for designing and creating a California Delta Trail; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.